

Review Draft 5/1/02

DMMP ISSUE PAPER

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE BIOACCUMULATIVE CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN (BCOC) LIST

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INTRODUCTION

Washington State's Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) currently identifies thirty-one bioaccumulative chemicals of concern (BCOCs). If sediment concentrations of any these BCOCs exceed bioaccumulation trigger levels (BT) established by the DMMP, then there is "reason to believe" that a potential risk may be posed to human and/or ecosystem health due to the accumulation of contaminants in aquatic organisms. In such cases, the DMMP agencies require bioaccumulation testing in addition to toxicity tests in order determine suitability for unconfined, open-water disposal.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

The current list of BCOCs (Attachment 1) was developed fourteen years ago based on the best available sediment monitoring and risk assessment information (PSDDA, 1988). In 1998, the DMMP presented the rationale and general approach for re-evaluating how bioaccumulation testing is conducted and interpreted which included revising the list of bioaccumulative contaminants required for analysis (PSDDA, 1998 and Hoffman, 1998). The DMMP also convened the Bioaccumulation Work Group (BWG) to begin the process of developing a systematic approach to revising the BCOC list, incorporating recent monitoring data as well as updated toxicological information. Since then, the BWG has met two times and has recommended a general approach to list development, a list of prospective chemicals to be considered, the data needed to characterize a chemical of bioaccumulative concern, and the conceptual criteria for defining the BCOC lists.

PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of this issue paper is to present the following draft lists which are proposed to replace the current Bioaccumulative Contaminants of Concern list:

- List 1: Primary Bioaccumulative Contaminants of Concern
- List 2: Candidate Bioaccumulative Contaminants of Concern
- List 3: Potential Bioaccumulative Contaminants of Concern
- List 4: Not Currently Considered to be Bioaccumulative Contaminants of Concern

A complete listing of the chemicals on each list is provided in Attachment 2. Details on the criteria defining each list, the data used, and the process for placing chemicals on a particular list will be provided in a separate technical appendix.

This issue paper, the lists and the technical appendix will be posted on the DMMO web site in Summer 2002. After a 30-day comment period, the DMMP agencies will revise and finalize the lists for immediate implementation.

REFERENCES

DMMP. 1998. Revision of Guidelines for Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern. DMMP issue paper. Prepared by John Malek (EPA) and Tom Gries (Ecology) for the DMMP agencies.

PSDDA. 1988. Evaluation Procedures Technical Appendix (EPTA) - Phase I. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Seattle District; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region X; Washington State Department of Natural Resources; Washington State Department of Ecology.

Hoffman, E. 1998. Technical Support Document: Revision of the Dredged Material Management Program Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern List. Prepared for the Dredged Material Management Program, September, 1998. 43 pages.